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The Contributions of Demography to Eugenics. By DR. CORRADO GINI. London: Chas. Knight & Co., 1913. Pp. 99.

This brief statistical study by the professor of statistics at the University of Cagliari aims to bring together the significant figures which throw light upon the principles of literal "good breeding." The data, while scanty in regard to a few topics, are drawn from a wide range of sources, and appear to be painstakingly used.

The first problem considered relates to the effect of the month of birth upon the offspring. In European countries the maximum of births occurs from January to March, and in Italy it is during these months that the percentage of still births rises to a maximum and the mortality of infants is greatest; this is attributed to the inadequate protection of the people against the inclemency of the winter season. Not only is immediate mortality high for those born in winter, but vitality in after life, as shown by statistics of survival to various ages, appears to be diminished. In higher latitudes the summer months exert a similarly unfavorable influence, as is well known.

The next problem treated at length is the effect upon the offspring of the age of the parents. The author concludes (p. 74): "All data examined as to the characters of the children according to the age of the parents—their weight and length, their longevity, their intelligence and temper—agree in showing that the younger the mother at delivery the better are found to be the characters of the offspring." On another page (p. 87) he writes: "It is to be hoped that the knowledge of the improvement in the vitality of the offspring to be derived from the early age of the bride may spread. . . . To have shown and proved these advantages . . . represents, according to our point of view, the chief result of this article."

The author's views on the significance of the difference of birth rate between the higher and lower classes are refreshingly optimistic and afford a pleasant contrast to the cocksure pessimism of some eugenicists: ". . . it does not necessarily follow from what we know of heredity that the children of the higher classes—if they were subjected from birth, or better, even from conception, to the same life 'régime' to which the children of the lower classes are subjected—would succeed better than these" (p. 83). He even ventures the opinion that possibly "Artificially to stimulate reproduction in the higher classes and check that of the lower ones would be equivalent to trying to improve society by increasing the duration of the life of the old and preventing new generations from taking their places" (p. 84). Degenerate individuals,

of course, of whatever social class, should be restrained from reproduction by the exercise of social control.

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The Larger Aspects of Socialism. By WILLIAM ENGLISH WALLING.
New York: Macmillan. Pp. xxi+403.

This work completes the study of Socialism begun by Walling in his *Socialism As It Is*. The former volume treated the economic and political features of the movement, while the latter deals with its cultural bearings. The Socialist attitude toward science, history, morality, religion, education, and the relations of the sexes is presented chiefly through quotations from authors whom Walling considers most advanced in their views upon these subjects. By no means all of these writers are Socialists, but in Walling's opinion they are pragmatists—at least regarding the subject in question—and for Walling pragmatism is only another name for Socialism. The pragmatism of Professor John Dewey, according to Walling, *is* twentieth-century Socialism.

In one sense the work contains little that is new, being composed largely of quotations from other authors; at the same time, it is probably the most original work yet produced by an American Socialist, for it does not follow the beaten paths of European writers. It is also refreshing in its freedom from the formulas and stock phrases of most Socialist works.

In accordance with his pragmatic viewpoint, Walling looks forward, rather than backward. He believes that man will rapidly increase his power to control his physical environment and social relations, and that consequently social progress will be rapid in the future. His criticism of the science, "evolutionism," biology, and history which dwell too much on the distant past and too little with the present and future is keen, if at times somewhat overdone. These chapters constitute the strongest part of the work and undoubtedly will go far to give Socialists, as well as other readers, a more pragmatic point of view.

On the other hand, the chapters dealing with the position of the individual in the "new society," and the Socialist view of morality, are extremely disappointing. It is hard to understand how a pragmatist should seriously concern himself with the ethics of a society not yet in existence, the form of which can only be conjectured at the present time. We should expect a pragmatist to study the Socialist movement as it is and is becoming, in order to discover the morality that is actually being